



Statistical Data on Iranian Asylum Seekers and Refugees in 2017

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the end of 2017, some 68.5 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced due to conflict and persecution. Of these, 25.4 million were refugees, including 19.9 million under UNHCR's mandate and 5.4 million Palestinian refugees registered with U. N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The figure also includes 3.1 million asylum-seekers (people whose asylum applications had not yet been adjudicated) and 40.0 million internally displaced people.

Based on data received or estimated by UNHCR at the end of 2017 the number of **Iranian refugees and asylum seekers** was **118,637**, of which **15,145** were assisted by the UNHCR mostly in Iraq (7,143). Some **42,182** new applications (35,100 first instance & 7,082 appeal) were filed by **Iranians** during 2017. The seven countries that **received the largest numbers of first instance** applications from Iranians were **Turkey** (9,186), **Germany** (8,608), **Australia** (5,075), the **United Kingdom** (3,057), **Greece** (1,295), **Iraq** (974), and **Austria** (949).

No. of applications filed by Iranians in previous years

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
24,812	24,139	27,999	27,791	60,472	68,608

Of the **70,391 decisions** taken on Iranian asylum applications in 2017 (first instance and appeal) some **27,817** resulted in **refugee status**, **1,428** resulted in **humanitarian status**, **23,321** were **rejected**, and 17,925 were closed on other grounds. When cases closed on other non-substantive grounds are excluded, the **global refugee recognition percentage** for Iranian asylum applicants during 2017 amounted to **53.0%**, whereas the total recognition percentage, including grants of **humanitarian status**, amounted to **55.7%**.

Recognition percentages for Iranians in previous years

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
50/55	56/58	56/61	55/59	63/65	56/59

Some examples of **first instance total recognition** rates (refugee & humanitarian) for **Iranian** applications in 2017 are: Australia (78%), Austria (96%), Canada (84%), France (33%), Germany (57%), Sweden (53%), Turkey-UNHCR (73%), UK (54%), and USA-INS (73%).

Globally, some 1.9 million individual asylum applications (first instance and appeal) with various nationalities were submitted in 162 countries or territories to Governments (86%) or UNHCR offices (14%) in 2017 and 1.5 million substantive decisions were rendered by Governments (94%) or UNHCR offices (6%). Seven countries receiving most of the new asylum applications were United States (331,700), Germany (198,300), Italy (126,500), Turkey (126,100), France (93,000), Uganda (57,300), and Greece (57,000). In total, the **global refugee recognition rate** amounted to **32.6%**. When applicants allowed to remain on **humanitarian grounds** are included, the recognition rate was **49.3%**.

Global recognition percentages in previous years

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
30/38	30/37	38/44	27/59	37/57	37/60

By nationality, the highest number of new asylum claims in 2017 was filed by individuals from Afghanistan (124,900) followed by Syria (117,100), Iraq (113,500), Venezuela (111,600), D.R. Congo (104,700), El Salvador (59,400), Nigeria (52,000), and Eritrea (49,800).

In 2017, a total of 102,800 refugees (less than 0.5% of world's refugees) were resettled in 35 countries with UNHCR's assistance (app. 65,109) or without it. By nationality, the main beneficiaries of resettlement were refugees from Syria (29,789), D.R. Congo (7,733), Myanmar (4,791), and Bhutan (3,959). Some **896 Iranians** were also **resettled** by UNHCR mostly from Turkey (771), Indonesia (51), and Malaysia (32) in the USA (631), Australia (35), and Canada (121), New Zealand (39), and UK (10).

SOURCES: UNHCR 2017 Global Trends & rsq.unhcr.org. For 2000-2016 figures see our previous statistics sheets.

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